

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 62286

**Title:** Patients with cirrhosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: Current evidence and future perspectives

**Reviewer's code:** 03538156

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Chief Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-04

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-06 11:06

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-07 07:26

**Review time:** 20 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

SARS-CoV-2 infection can lead to liver injury, which is more likely to occur in patients with pre-existing liver disease. Severe basic liver disease may lead to more serious outcomes in patients with COVID-19. How to manage these patients with cirrhosis and COVID-19 is very important when COVID-19 is pandemic. In this review, the authors summarized the current epidemiology, pathophysiological basis of liver injury, clinical characteristics, outcomes, and management strategies in patients with cirrhosis and COVID-19. This review is systematic and comprehensive. Some suggestions are as follows: 1. In the section of “direct pathogenic virus cytotoxicity”, the authors mentioned that in the normal human liver, the distribution of ACE2 receptors is particularly high in bile duct epithelial cells. Bile duct chemistry parameter (alkaline phosphatase,  $\gamma$ -glutamyl transferase) should elevate significantly. However, in clinical practice, elevation of liver chemistry profiles is common, rather than bile duct enzymes. How to explain it, especially in patients with cirrhosis and COVID-19? 2. In the section of “Drug-induced liver injury”, besides antiviral agents, antibiotics, and corticosteroids, Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine may also lead to drug-induced liver injury. It’s suggested to add it. 3. In the section of “Reactivation of pre-existing liver disease”, I suggest to increase HBV reactivation caused by glucocorticoid.

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 62286

**Title:** Patients with cirrhosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: Current evidence and future perspectives

**Reviewer's code:** 00503575

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Morocco

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-04

**Reviewer chosen by:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-05 17:46

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-17 18:01

**Review time:** 12 Days

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

**Comments** The present manuscript reviews the outbreak of coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) in patients with cirrhosis. It summarizes several epidemiological, clinical, mechanisms of liver injuries, outcomes and therapeutic strategies. The manuscript gathered very important recent data worth to be published, however, several aspects need to be addressed. Major 1. The data presented as the authors mentioned were expected in regards to the general population, however, the manuscript would have more impact when it addresses the specificity of the impact of covid-19 on cirrhotic patients vs. other pathologies and particularly those with immune system disturbances. 2. The sections of the manuscripts would better present the subject by addressing within the following order epidemiological, clinical, mechanisms of liver injuries, outcomes and therapeutic strategies. 3. The figure 1, which doesn't show A and B parts, do not provide any specific information in regards to normal situation and cirrhosis. Information in both parts seems duplicated and need to be revised to improve and provide details which helps distinguish both situations. Minor 1. In page 1, all authors should read both authors. 2. In page three, the authors mentioned that few studies have focused on the impact of SARS-COV2 in patients with cirrhosis although the manuscripts cited several studies. 3. In page 5, 2nd paragraph, "...including 1.7 million cases with mortality" should read "...including 1.7 million cases of mortality" 4. In page 7, the sentence: Fulminant cytokine storms can release multiple proinflammatory cytokines and inflammatory markers, including IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, IL-8, IL-17, interferon- $\gamma$ , granulocyte-colony stimulating factor and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ , in patients with severe COVID-19[45, 52, 53]. Should start with: In patients with severe COVID-19, fulminant... 5. Tables 1 and 2 exhibit duplication of the information of the number of patients and the references. The authors may use one landscape table where all



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information could be included.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Clinical Cases

**Manuscript NO:** 62286

**Title:** Patients with cirrhosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: Current evidence and future perspectives

**Reviewer's code:** 03538156

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Chief Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-01-04

**Reviewer chosen by:** Man Liu (Part-Time Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-02-07 07:52

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-02-08 02:18

**Review time:** 18 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors made a good revision, and I agree to accept the manuscript.